

BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.
NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
F O R T H E
Y E A R E N D I N G T H E 31st D E C E M B E R,
1 9 5 7.

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A. W. HANSELL, M.B., B.S.
Medical Officer of Health.



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BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
North Riding of Yorkshire.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for
the year ending the
31st December, 1957.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Bedale Rural District Council,

SIR, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report
for the year ending the 31st December, 1957.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

- (1) One Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)
- (2) One Public Health Inspector & Surveyor (Full-time)
- (3) One Additional Public Health Inspector (Part-time)
- (4) One Waterworks Manager (Full-time)

STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	43,302 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid 1957)	...	...	...	8,390
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books (end of 1957)	...	...	...	2,229
Rateable Value of the Area	...	...	...	£81,235
Product of a Penny Rate (estimate)	...	...	...	£ 310.

NOTE:

The figure given above for the estimated population includes Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the Area.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate	77	64	141	Birth Rate 17.2
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	
	78	67	145	
<u>Stillbirths.</u>				
Legitimate	-	1	1	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
<u>Deaths.</u>	44	42	86	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 10.2
<u>Deaths from Maternal Causes</u>	...	...	Nil	
<u>Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age</u>				
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate	1	-	1	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
			<u>1</u>	

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Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age ... Nil.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (a) Laboratory facilities. | (b) Clinics and Treatment Centres. |
| (c) Nursing Services. | (d) Ambulance Services. |
| (e) Hospitals. | |

Inadequacy of accommodation for the chronic sick and infirm still continues to be a cause for anxiety.

Very little improvement has been made in this direction since the introduction of the National Health Service ten years ago.

With this exception the services mentioned above have proved adequate during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

W A T E R.

1. QUANTITY.

The water supply over the whole area has been satisfactory. To overcome shortage during periods of peak demand at Crakehall, Burrill, Langthorne and Hackforth, the Council has constructed a service reservoir of 300,000 gallons capacity at Pasture Hill, Cowling, at an elevation of 480 ft. above O.D. This reservoir was completed and brought into use on the 28th February, 1957 and it has prevented the overdrawing of the 8" trunk main and thus maintained an adequate and constant pressure of water to consumers in the above-mentioned places.

A Booster Station has been built near Halfpenny Houses, Clifton and two electrically driven booster pumping sets installed in this pump house. These pumps have improved the pressure and increased the delivery to the Gebdykes Storage Tank.

During the year the water level in the well at Bellerby, was not seriously affected by drought.

2. QUALITY.

The water supply to the whole area has been treated by chlorination and the quality has been very satisfactory since my last Annual Report. Fourteen samples have been taken from fittings in various parts of the Council's area, receiving supplies from the Council's mains. All these were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory at Northallerton for analysis and in all cases proved satisfactory for drinking and domestic purposes.

3. FRACTURED MAINS.

During the year, work on fractured mains has been carried out at Bedale, West Tanfield, Aiskew, Crakehall, Cowling, Langthorne and Carthorpe. In all cases this work has been undertaken and carried out with the least possible inconvenience to consumers in the above-mentioned places.

4. MAINS EXTENSIONS.

During the year mains extensions have been carried out at South End, Bedale, Housing Site.

5. CONSUMPTION.

Approximate daily consumption in the Bedale Rural District.(Normal consumers).	359,000 galls.
Approximate daily consumption in the Leyburn Rural District.	51,000 galls.
Leeming Aerodrome.	80,000 galls.
Total daily consumption	<u>490,000</u>

6. PRESSURE RECORDERS.

Pressure recorders have been installed in various parts of the area of supply for record purposes.

7. CONNECTIONS AND METERS.

During the year 37 connections have been taken from the Council's mains and 10 meters installed. These are supplying farms, private dwellinghouses and Council Houses etc., in the Bedale Rural District.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The sewers and sewage disposal arrangements detailed in my last report have continued in use throughout the District and apart from occasional blockages have given rise to no serious trouble. The effluents in the majority of cases are unsatisfactory however and these cannot be improved until proper treatment plant is available.

The Bedale and Aiskew sewerage scheme was commenced in May and work has proceeded steadily. Completion of the scheme is scheduled for September, 1958. On completion of the scheme a proper sewer will be available to all houses in this area and it is hoped that all privies and ashpits attached to the houses will then be abolished.

During the year, surveys have been made in the villages of Thornborough, Londonderry, Exelby, Nosterfield and Well and sewerage and sewage disposal schemes are in course of preparation for these areas. The sewerage arrangements of the Village of Thornton Watlass have also been reviewed and a scheme prepared which includes new sewers with a small disposal works near the existing pond. The proposed disposal works would consist of settling tanks, sludge beds and a land irrigation system for final treatment of the effluent. Such a scheme would be reasonably cheap to carry out and would be a great improvement on the present arrangements.

Effluents from all the slaughtering establishments in the District are now received into the sewers after pre-treatment on the premises in each case. These are regarded as Trade Effluents and form the subject of Agreements with the Council. The most recent effluent to be taken in is that from the Vale of Mowbray Bacon Factory at Leeming Bar, amounting to 12,000 gallons per day. This effluent is screened and treated with sulphate of alumina and then allowed to settle in large tanks. The effluent is then decanted from the settling tanks into the sewer. The Leeming Bar Sewage Disposal Works are treating this effluent along with the domestic sewage and are producing a satisfactory effluent for discharge to the stream.

REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL.

Refuse throughout the area continues to be collected by Contract. The times of collection, namely, privy ashpits four times per year and bins weekly or fortnightly depending on the area concerned, have not been varied and the service has remained generally satisfactory.

All refuse is disposed of by tipping, two tips serving the whole area. These are situated at Bedale and Leeming Bar and are kept as tidy as possible. There have been no serious rat infestations at either tip and both are regularly treated to prevent rats becoming established in them.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council employ no staff for this work and where infestations are found the occupiers of the premises concerned are advised on the best method of destroying the vermin. It is understood that the service to farms provided by the Agricultural Executive Committee will shortly cease and if this happens it may be that there will have to be some revision of the position so far as the Council is concerned.

HOUSING.

The survey of all unfit and defective houses in the area has proceeded steadily throughout the year and is now nearing completion. At the present time it is known that there are approximately 200 houses in the District which are quite unfit for human habitation. On completion of the survey it will be possible to formulate a slum clearance programme covering the whole area. The re-housing of tenants from unfit houses already in clearance areas or houses dealt with individually under the Housing Acts has gone ahead. The Nosterfield area has now been vacated, and in addition the tenants from unfit houses have been moved to Council Houses.

Towards the end of the year it was decided to proceed with the Green's Row Clearance Area at Bedale and the Order was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government without modification. These tenants together with those from the Glebe Cottages will, it is hoped, be re-housed in the new houses in course of erection at South End, Bedale.

The Council have continued with their house building programme and 20 new houses have been completed. At the end of the year a further 61 houses were in course of erection or formed part of contracts already let.

Private house building has proceeded and 17 houses have been completed. A further 9 were in course of erection at the year end.

Owners of property have continued to take advantage of the Improvement Grants available under the Housing Act 1949 and grants were given in 22 cases. Owing to the 'credit squeeze' towards the end of the year the Council found it necessary to reduce the maximum grant available from £400 to £250 but this reduction does not appear to have affected the position and owners are still proceeding with improvement schemes.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

There have been no changes in the number of slaughterhouses in the area and the four in use are all of good standard and well maintained.

Meat is inspected before it leaves the slaughterhouses and a large proportion continues to be exported from the area. It is not possible for the Meat Inspectors to examine all bacon pig carcasses at the Vale of Mowbray Bacon Factory owing to shortage of staff and a 'spotting system' has to be employed. A careful check is kept that the 'spotters' are working carefully and efficiently and under the circumstances this is the only system possible.

The business of pre-packing of meat has increased and is now carried out at three slaughtering establishments. The

premises used for the purpose are regularly inspected and conditions and methods employed are very satisfactory.

The methods of disposal of condemned meat have remained unchanged during the year and appear to work very satisfactorily.

A statement showing the animals slaughtered and meat condemned is attached to the report. In order to give a true record of the percentages of animals effected with disease all pigs are regarded as inspected even though the 'spotting system' is employed at the Bacon Factory.

MILK SUPPLY.

The bulk of the milk supplied in the area continues to be delivered to the retailers in sealed bottles by the large Wholesale Dairies. The empty bottles are returned to the wholesalers for cleansing. In addition there are a small number of designated producers who supply milk in the villages and dispose of the bulk of their supply to the dairies. These suppliers' premises and methods are satisfactory.

FOOD SHOPS.

The number and type of food premises in the area has not varied during the year and inspections are made from time to time. In all cases the premises are satisfactory and well maintained.

There are no ice-cream manufacturing premises in the District and all ice-cream is sold in the containers and wrappings in which it is received from the manufacturers.

There are three bakehouses now in use and all are used principally for the making of meat pies and cooked meats. They are all of modern construction and very satisfactory.

(For Statement showing the animals slaughtered and meat condemned, see page 6).

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in
whole or in part during the year ending
DECEMBER, 1957.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horse
Number Killed	3329	357	240	9937	79329	-
Number Inspected	3329	357	240	9937	79329	-
<u>All diseases</u> <u>except</u> <u>Tuberculosis</u> <u>and Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned	7	7	10	58	77	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	297	35	10	279	1169	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	9.1	11.8	4.2	3.4	1.6	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	8	9	-	-	9	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	240	120	-	-	2049	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.4	36.1	-	-	2.6	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned					1	
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration			1			
Generalised and totally condemned	N					

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Pneumonia	28	2
Scarlet Fever	3	Nil
Measles	139	1
Polionyelitis	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	20	Nil
Erysipelas	1	Nil

During the last three months of the year a widespread epidemic of influenza occurred. One death was attributed to this disease but on the whole there were few serious cases.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Localisation of Disease</u>
30 years	F	Lungs
65 years	M	Lungs

Deaths

65 years	M	Lungs
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In concluding my Report, I should like to express my thanks to your Public Health Inspectors, Mr. J. F. Dunning and Mr. F. Young and also to your Waterworks Manager, Mr. J. Janeson, for the very valuable help they have rendered during the year.

I have the honour to be Sir, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALAN W. HANSELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

